

AD is incorporated, inspect (using dye penetrant methods) the MLG inboard door hinges and attachment angles for cracks. Accomplish the inspections in accordance with the INSTRUCTIONS section of Piper Service Bulletin No. 682, dated July 24, 1980.

(b) The initial dye penetrant inspection type must be utilized for all future repetitive inspections. Dye penetrant inspection types consist of Type I: fluorescent; Type II: non-fluorescent or visible dye; and Type III: dual sensitivity.

(c) If cracks are found during any of the inspections required in paragraph (a) of this AD, prior to further flight, install a Piper P/N 47529-32 MLG inboard door hinge and attachment angle assembly or install FAA-approved MLG inboard door hinges and angles made of steel.

(d) Within the next 800 hours TIS after the effective date of this AD, unless already accomplished as required by paragraph (c) of this AD, install a Piper P/N 47529-32 MLG inboard door hinge and attachment angle assembly in all four hinge assembly locations or install FAA-approved MLG inboard door hinges and angles made of steel in all four hinge assembly locations.

(e) Installing a Piper P/N 47529-32 MLG inboard door hinge and attachment angle assembly in all four assembly locations or installing FAA-approved MLG inboard door hinges and angles made of steel in all four assembly locations as required by paragraphs (c) and (d) of this AD is considered terminating action for the repetitive inspection requirement of this AD.

(f) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

(g) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an equivalent level of safety may be approved by the Manager, Atlanta Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), One Crown Center, 1895 Phoenix Boulevard, suite 450, Atlanta, Georgia 30349.

(1) The request shall be forwarded through an appropriate FAA Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Atlanta ACO.

(2) Alternative methods of compliance approved in accordance with AD 80-26-05 (superseded by this action) are not considered approved as alternative methods of compliance with this AD.

**Note 2:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Atlanta ACO.

(h) All persons affected by this directive may obtain copies of the document referred to herein upon request to The New Piper Aircraft, Inc., 2926 Piper Drive, Vero Beach, Florida 32960; or may examine this document at the FAA, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

(i) This amendment supersedes AD 80-26-05, amendment 39-3994.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on October 14, 1997.

**Mary Ellen Schutt,**

*Acting Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### 23 CFR Part 655

[FHWA Docket No. 96-47, FHWA 97-2295, Notice No. 1]

RIN 2125-AE11

#### National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; Revision of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices; Markings, Signals, and Traffic Control Systems for Railroad-Highway Grade Crossings

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed amendment to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), reopening and extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA is reopening and extending the comment period for a notice of proposed amendment to the MUTCD which was published January 6, 1997, at 62 FR 691. The original comment period was set to close on August 30, 1997. This extension responds to concern expressed by the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) that the August 30 closing date does not provide sufficient time for appropriate response to the proposed MUTCD change. The FHWA recognizes that other commenters may be subject to similar time constraints and agrees that the comment period should be reopened and extended. Therefore, the closing date for comments is extended to December 22, 1997, in order to provide the NCUTCD and other interested commenters additional time to evaluate the proposed changes and to submit responses.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before December 22, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Signed, written comments should refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington DC 20590-0001. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday,

except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information regarding the notice of proposed amendment contact Ms. Linda Brown, Office of Highway Safety, Room 3408, (202) 366-2192, or Mr. Raymond Cuprill, Office of Chief Counsel, Room 4217, (202) 366-0834, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As noted, the original comment period for the January 6, 1997, notice of proposed amendment to the MUTCD closed on August 30, 1997. The NCUTCD has expressed concern that this closing date does not provide sufficient time to review the proposed change, consolidate comments, and submit these comments to its member organizations for approval. The NCUTCD only meets in January and June of each year to vote as a full body on proposals and issues relating to the MUTCD. Judging from the number of comments received so far to this docket and considering the large amount of materials contained in this docket, we believe there may be other interested persons who need additional time to respond.

The MUTCD is available for inspection and copying as prescribed in 49 CFR part 7, appendix D. It may be purchased for \$44.00 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954, Stock No. 650-001-00001-0.

**Authority:** 23 U.S.C. 315, 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued: October 8, 1997.

**Gloria J. Jeff,**

*Acting Federal Highway Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 97-27741 Filed 10-20-97; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR Part 52

[TX 57-1-7183: FRL-5911-6]

#### Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans (SIP) for Texas: Houston Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Offset Plan

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Proposed rulemaking.